

Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00

FRB-03 PA-01 PRS-01 /106 W
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R 150655Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0682

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 0853

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, OPEC, QA

SUBJ: QATAR PETROLEUM DIRECTOR COMMENTS ON OIL PRICE RISE

1. DURING JULY 13 CONVERSATION, GOVT OF QATAR DIRECTOR OF PETROLEUM AFFAIRS, ALI JAIDAH, STATED THAT SEPTEMBER 24 OPEC MEETING WOULD MOST CERTAINLY AGREE ON OIL PRICE HIKE, AND ONLY QUESTION IS HOW MUCH. ACCORDING JAIDAH, DISCUSSIONS AT GABON OPEC MINISTERIAL CLEARLY INDICATED CONSENSUS FOR PRICE INCREASE AND STUDIES RE AMOUNT NOW IN PROCESS.

2. WE CALLED TO JAIDAH'S ATTENTION GENERAL US POLICY AGAINST OIL PRICE RISE AND PRESIDENT'S RECENT STATEMENTS ON SUBJECT, POINTING OUT THAT INCREASED PRICE COULD SERIOUSLY IMPEDE
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ECONOMIC RECOVERY IN US AND INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, AND THIS

WOULD EVENTUALLY HURT ALL, INCLUDING PRODUCERS.

3. JAIDAH CONTENDED THAT INFLATION OF "AT LEAST 20 PERCENT" WOULD BE ELEMENT IN OPEC PRICE STUDIES. HOWEVER, HE ASSERTED THAT POLITICAL FACTORS WOULD ALSO PLAY VERY IMPORTANT ROLE IN OPEC PRICING DECISIONS. ACCORDING JAIDAH, RESUMPTION OF SERIOUS PRODUCER/CONSUMER DIALOGUE WOULD HAVE TEMPERING EFFECT ON OPEC DELIBERATIONS, AND ARAB PRODUCERS WOULD REGARD PROGRESS TOWARD MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT ALSO AS MITIGATING FACTOR.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, PRICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975DOHA00853
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750243-0785
From: DOHA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750752/aaaabumo.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <09 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: QATAR PETROLEUM DIRECTOR COMMENTS ON OIL PRICE RISE
TAGS: ENRG, QA, OPEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006